





# Keynote Address: 'Our Obligation To Mississippi Baptists'

(Continued from page 1)

These, like us, are people for whom Christ died. These are the ones to whom our Lord directed us when He said "go ye".

We have, as a convention, an obligation to the state. By this is meant an obligation to every level of government, local, state, and national. We must resist any temptation to allow our work to encroach upon the resources of government just as vigorously as we would resist any attempt by governing bodies to interfere with our religious practices. Those privileges we would bar other religious groups from receiving at the hands of a generous government, we must not claim for ourselves.

We have an obligation to other Christian groups not associated with this convention. We must not arrogate to ourselves the role of being the sole repository of the Divine Truth. While we believe that Baptists' distinctives should not be compromised or subordinated for the sake of a combined effort with other Christian groups, there are times and ways that we can and should, even while pursuing separate courses, strive toward a common goal.

There may be other segments or definable groups of society to whom this convention has an obligation. It is not my purpose to explore this avenue further but rather to confine this discussion to one principal obligation of this convention. That obligation is the one that we have to Mississippi Baptists. This is the people from whence we came, and from whom we were sent. These are the ones who make this convention possible. This is the people who provide the financial support that our work may prosper. They are the ones who supply the manpower and womanpower that our programs must have to succeed. Without their help this convention cannot operate, and without their support there is no reason for this convention to exist.

This obligation we have to Mississippi Baptists has many aspects. Let us today examine several of these.

We have an obligation to be good stewards over that which has been placed in our trust. In its broadest context, this would encompass all areas of our convention life, just as stewardship for the individual involves his total being. But let us narrow our perspective to several specific areas.

When stewardship for the convention would involve the use of money, it is essential that we be speaking of a co-operative program budget or a fund raising drive for a specific convention object, our people have a right to expect that the goal be realistically set to accomplish its purpose. While adequate financing is no assurance that a given program will succeed, a lack of proper financial support will surely doom it to failure. Quality does not come cheap, and Mississippi Baptists do not want their programs and institutions to be second-rate. On the other hand, a massive infusion of money will not suffice to change a poorly conceived program into one of quality.

Mississippi Baptists understand these principles and our responsibility in this area requires our taking such action as may be necessary to insure that our work is one a sound financial base.

The matter of setting worthy goals is not confined to convention finances. Whether we speak of Sunday School enlargement, baptisms, or participation in some other program or ministry, the goals set should be such that will call for the best from our people.

Good stewardship by the convention includes the establishment and operation of workable programs. We Baptists have for many years promoted an extensive program of work, much of it through the local church. The results accomplished by these programs have been varied. Some have been highly successful, while others have accomplished little besides occupying space and time.

Society has become so complex and the demands upon the time of the average individual have become so heavy that he is able to participate in all the activities for the betterment of society that would claim his attention. He even finds it difficult to take part in all the activities of his local church. With the time crunch upon all of us, we are forced to pick and choose those activities that offer the best prospect of success with the time that can be allotted to it. No longer can we allow ourselves the luxury of meeting for the sake of meeting.

Our programs must be planned to achieve maximum results for the time expended. The Sunday School Enlargement program and the Lay Witness Ministry are outstanding examples of programs designed to get to the heart of our reason for existence as a convention.

**Need Adequate Communication**  
Along with the establishment and maintenance of workable programs is the essential need of adequate communication with our people. They need to fully understand what is to be accomplished and why their participation is essential. They need to know the programs offered. They make their own evaluation as to the effectiveness of a given activity. By giving them the necessary information on which to base their conclusion, we

give the convention a better chance to secure their cooperation.

If the convention would be a good steward it must make the proper use of its resources. This convention has many assets, some tangible, others intangible. The use we make of off these things are of vital importance.

The proper use of our resources goes far beyond merely not misusing what we have. The servant who buried the talent in the ground did not misuse that which he held in trust, yet he was condemned by his master because he did not put it to proper use.

Mississippi Baptists commit great sums of money each year to the care of this convention. The Convention Board is charged with the responsibility of bringing a proposed budget to this convention for your final approval. These men do not take this responsibility lightly. It is a difficult task to make a proper judgment as to how cooperative program funds should be distributed among the many areas of need. This convention, when it adopts or modifies their recommendations, will have joined these men in sharing this responsibility. Faulty judgment or a mid-placed emphasis here can have a serious effect on the whole of our convention work.

## Must Use Resources

Proper use of our resources includes the most effective deployment of our professional workers. It involves giving to them the tools and the help that they need to accomplish their assignments. It includes our appreciating these people enough to furnish them adequate salaries. It means seeking the best qualified people to lead in these areas of responsibility.

A proper use of our resources will include the conservation of our human resources. It is taking such steps as may be necessary to bring the more than one-half million Mississippi Baptists into a greater support of this convention and its activities. We have many people who are already supporting this convention. They could be brought to a deeper commitment to our work if they had a better understanding of the convention's need for their involvement. We also have a great many people who are only nominally involved in the program of the local church. These people have very little concept of this convention and its mission. If we can somehow motivate these to become active supporters of the Baptist work in Mississippi we can strengthen our work and witness almost beyond measure.

A proper use of our resources includes making full use of the spiritual resources available to us. Of all the resources we have, this one alone is in unlimited supply. This is the es-

sential ingredient that differentiates our work from that of the secular society. This resource must be used liberally if we are to make proper use of the other resources; available to us. Our failure at this point means failure at all points.

A second obligation that we owe to Mississippi Baptists is the obligation to operate our agencies and institutions responsibly to the wishes of our constituency. The framers of our constitution wisely provided for the operation of our institutions by trustees elected by the convention. These men and women, so selected, devote much time and energy in consideration of the problems related to their responsibility. Because of this study, they have a knowledge of the consequences of possible courses of action that the rest of us do not have an opportunity to gain. It has been well said that our institutions cannot be operated from the floor of the convention. Time available at convention sessions simply will not permit the in-depth consideration that many of the decisions deserve.

Although we recognize that our trustees have the responsibility for the operation of our institutions, it would be incorrect to say that the convention exercises no control over their actions. The trustees are elected by convention action and the convention imposes a measure of financial control by the allocation of funds. Aside from these, there is another control that, while not as obvious as those mentioned, is just as real. This restraint is the realization by the trustees that they have, in fact, received a trust from the convention; that the institution is owned by Mississippi Baptists, and that their trusteeship must reflect this acknowledgment of ownership.

## Institutions Run By Trustees

We are confident that each institution of this convention is operated by trustees who hold this view of their trust. We believe that we have no institution whose trustees do not wish to be in harmony with the purposes of Mississippi Baptists.

There have been times when it may have been difficult for our trustees to determine just what was or what was not the will of Mississippi Baptists in matters relating to our institutions. Unfortunately, there have been times when a small group of individuals have expressed their opinions with a decibel rating far in excess of that justified by such a minuscule number. There have been times when convention action has not been as precise as it should have been.

In order that our trustees can truly discern the will of the convention in matters within their area of responsibility, we must be clear and consistent in our actions and pronouncements.

Then, the board flow of convention action year after year will provide a certain guide as to what course Mississippi Baptists wish to follow. A study of these actions by the trustees of our institutions will reveal a consistent direction of thought that can guide them as they carry out their responsibilities.

A third obligation this convention has to Mississippi Baptists is the obligation to order our priorities in accordance with the purposes for which this convention was established. Our convention rather strongly sets as our prime goal the promotion of Christian missions and the furtherance of the Kingdom of God. All other objects must give way to this fundamental task.

As we become more numerous and more affluent we are faced with decisions as to whether we shall branch out into new fields of work. Some of these areas are currently enjoying great popularity. They have a certain amount of glamour, they are highly visible, they make good newspaper copy, and they have a superficial attraction. These projects or programs, while not inherently bad of themselves, nevertheless have the capacity to siphon off a disproportionate amount of time, energy, and financial resources that might be better used elsewhere.

This is not to be construed as advocating that our program of work should be frozen in its present pattern. We must always be alert to new methods of fulfilling our mission. As methods presently used become ineffective in meeting the needs of our people, they must be revised or replaced with better and more effective means of accomplishing our mission.

We must also guard against a misplaced emphasis in membership numbers and financial statistics. Increases in these numbers are commendable and much to be desired, but we must view them, not as goals, but only as indicators of our commitment and our stewardship.

We must not equate bigness with greatness. Even religious denominations are not immune to the corrupting influence of power. History is replete with examples of religious institutions that reached such a degree of dominance that the individual was expected to serve the institution.

Our convention is committed to just the reverse of this and we must be careful that all of our institutions reflect this commitment.

The Gospel of Luke quotes our Lord as saying "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him much shall be required; and to whom men

shall have committed much, of him they will ask the more."

Much has been given to this convention. Our people have committed into our hands the responsibility to lead them in the most effective way possible in carrying out the Great Commission. This is a great responsibility. It is one that demands our best efforts under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Let our actions be such that will not only merit the approval of Mississippi Baptists, but such that we may receive a "well done" from our Lord.

## Convention Opens ---

(Continued from page 1)

Montgomery, Ala. and past president of the SBC Foreign Mission Board; Dr. Armando Silverio, pastor of Rolling Hills Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, and Southern Baptist missionary in the area; Dr. Carl E. Bates, pastor of First Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C., and immediate past president of the Southern Baptist Convention; and Rev. Richard Hogue, evangelist, of Houston, Texas, the Youth Night speaker.

## Thanksgiving TV Special Produced By First, Greenville

A special Thanksgiving Television program has been produced by and for First Baptist Church, Greenville, and will be presented on two state TV stations, according to announcement by Rev. Barry Landrum, pastor of the church.

Called "Thanksgiving", the 30 minute special will be aired on WABG, Channel 6, Greenville, at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, Nov. 22, and on WAPT Channel 16, Jackson at 4:30 P.M. or after the ball game, on Thanksgiving Day, November 23.

The program was planned and directed by the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, and produced in the studios of TV station WAPT in Jackson.

Featured will be Mr. Landrum, Tom Lester of Laurel, noted TV star, and the Youth Choir of the Greenville church.

Mr. Landrum says that this is the first of at least four television specials which First Church, Greenville hopes to produce in the coming year. Other special radio and television ministries also are planned.

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

### APPLICATION FOR HOTEL OR MOTEL RESERVATIONS

Portland, Oregon—June 12-14, 1973

Please fill out form completely and mail to:

**SBC Housing Bureau**  
824 S.W. 5th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97204

**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE CLEARED THROUGH THE SBC HOUSING BUREAU.** Each request must give definite date and approximate hour of arrival, and include names and addresses of all persons who will occupy the rooms requested. If it should become necessary to cancel a reservation, please notify the SBC Housing Bureau promptly. At least four choices of hotels or motels are desirable. Reservations will be filled in order of date of receipt. Processing of reservations to begin November 1, 1972.

If accommodations at the hotel/motel of your choice are not available, the Housing Bureau will make a reservation elsewhere as near your request as possible, and you will receive confirmation direct from the hotel/motel.

**NO MINIMUM RATES** can be guaranteed when your reservation is confirmed, as this is governed by prior check-outs and availability of such rooms on the date of your arrival.

## HOTEL OR MOTEL PREFERENCES

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
4th Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
MODE OF TRAVEL: Automobile ☐ Plane ☐ Bus ☐ Other ☐

## TYPE ROOM AND RATE DESIRED

Single \_\_\_\_\_  
Double Bedroom \_\_\_\_\_  
Twin Bedroom \_\_\_\_\_  
Parlor, Bedroom Suite \_\_\_\_\_  
A.M. DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
P.M. DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## NAMES OF ALL OCCUPANTS:

(Please bracket those sharing room)

## ADDRESSES:

## MAIL CONFIRMATION TO: NAME

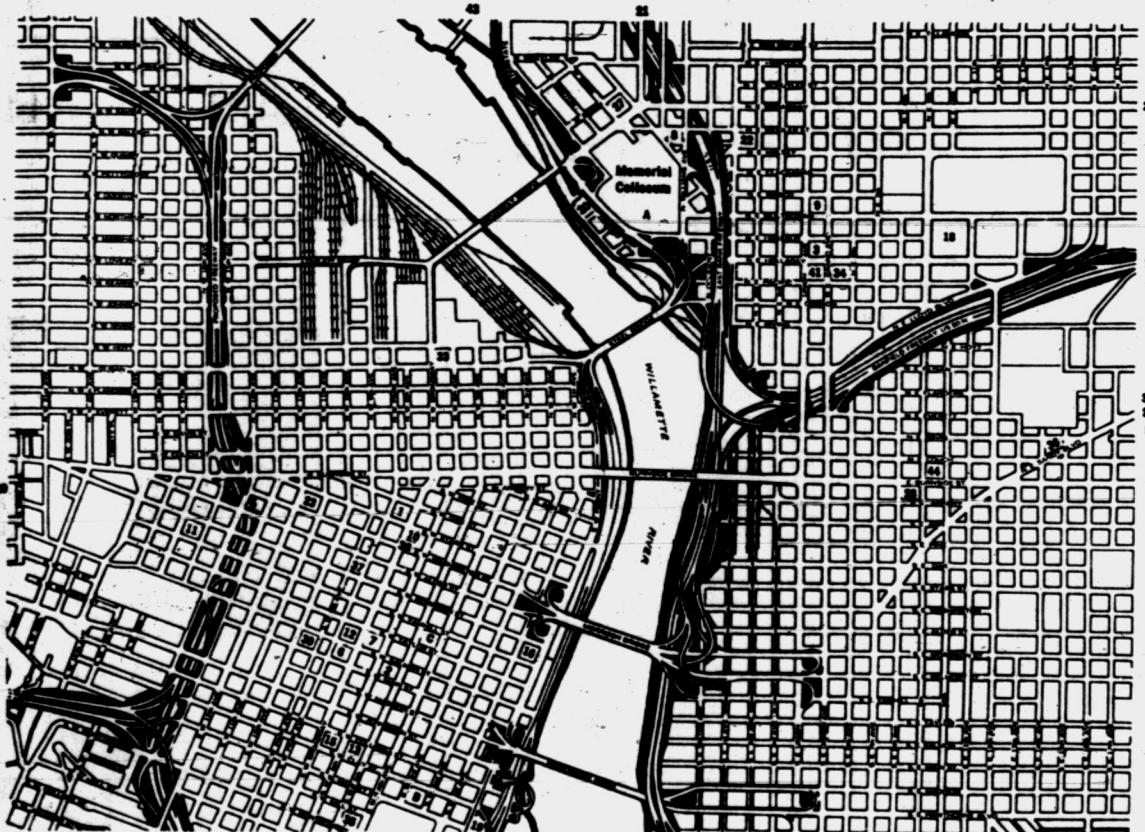
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Southern Baptist Convention ..... June 12-14  
Women's Missionary Union ..... June 11  
Pastors' Conference ..... June 11



## HOTEL/MOTEL RATES • SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION • JUNE 12-14, 1973

MOTEL	SINGLES	DOUBLES	TWINs	SUITES
(1) Ross	\$18.00-27.00	\$22.00-32.00	\$28.00-38.00	\$75.00-150.00
(2) Congress	10.00-15.00	12.00-18.00	14.00-20.00	25.00-35.00
(3) Commodore	18.00	24.00	28.00	40.00
(4) Commodore Airtel	18.00	24.00	28.00	40.00
(5) Flamingo Motel	19.50	23.50	22.00	20.00-25.00
(6) Grand	12.00	14.00	16.00	35.00-62.00
(7) Hilton	15.50-28.50	18.00	23.50-35.50	75.50-250.00
(8) Holiday Inn	15.00	18.00	18.00	20.00-25.00
(9) Hotel Lodge	11.00	12.00	12.00	15.00
(10) Imperial	8.00	12.00	12.00	15.00
(11) Mayfair	11.00-15.00	12.00-18.00	12.00-18.00	20.00
(12) Mayfair	11.00	12.00	12.00	15.00
(13) Portland Motor Hotel	15.00	17.00	18.00	25.00-45.00
(14) Regency Inn	18.50	21.00	23.00	30.00
(15) Riverside West	14.50	16.50	17.50	35.00
(16) Sheraton Motel Inn	14.50-18.50	18.50-21.50	18.50	30.00-45.00
(17) Sheraton Inn	15.00	18.00	18.00	20.00
(18) Sheraton Inn	15.00	18.00	18.00	20.00
(19) Thunderbird-Jackson Beach	15.00	20.00	22.00	35.00
(20) Washington	15.00	20.00	22.00	35.00
(21) Broadway	16.00-20.00	18.00-22.00	18.00-22.00	20.00
(22) City Center	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(23) Columbia	8.00	9.00	11.00	12.00
(24) Continental	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(25) Coram Arms	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(26) El Rancho	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(27) Golden Door	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(28) Hotel "400"	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(29) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(30) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(31) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(32) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(33) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(34) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(35) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(36) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(37) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(38) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(39) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(40) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(41) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(42) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(43) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00
(44) Innkeeper	10.50	12.50	14.50	15.00

(A) Memorial Coliseum (B) Portland Civic Auditorium (C) Convention Bureau and Visitors Service

\*These facilities could not be reached for rate quotations.

Other motels are available located 20 minutes from Memorial Coliseum.



## State Round-Up

# Missouri Baptists Defeat Lay Effort

ST. LOUIS (BP)—A series of proposals apparently favoring greater participation of laymen in denominational affairs and more information on convention business sparked mild debate before being soundly defeated by messengers to the Missouri Baptist Convention here.

Following the brief debate, the convention went on with routine business, agency reports, re-election of its president, adoption of a budget, and adoption of resolutions with little further discussion.

Two resolutions strongly opposed taxation measures which the conven-

tion called unconstitutional, and a "threat to religious liberty."

The convention strongly disapproved a recent measure adopted by the Missouri legislature which would provide "preferential grants" to students of church-related and private colleges "provided these schools cease considering religion in hiring administrators (including the president), faculty (including teachers of religion), and staff."

The resolution called the restriction on hiring practices "a gross perversion of religious liberty" and called on the Missouri legislature to repeal "this dangerous law" as soon as possible before considering any tax increase proposal.

A second resolution opposed the "Tax Policy Review Act of 1972" proposed by Congressman Wilbur Mills (R., Ark.) and Senator Mike Mansfield (D., Mont.) which, the convention charged, would terminate all tax exemptions and deductions applicable for non-profit institutions and organizations, including churches.

The convention expressed "our judgment that tax deductions for voluntary contributions to churches should stand as long as the government policy permits a tax deduction for voluntary contributions to any not-for-profit cause."

Three proposals submitted by an unofficial, ad hoc group of laymen calling themselves Concerned Baptist Laymen of Missouri were defeated on voice and standing votes after what was described as mild debate.

One motion would have called for the convention to meet on weekends rather than week days to permit more laymen to attend. Another called for quarterly publication of detailed receipts and expenditures of convention agencies. The third requested publication of the minutes of all Executive Board meetings as soon as possible after each meeting.

Dr. Tom Anderson, a psychiatrist from Columbia, Mo., who said he was coordinator of the self-appointed organization, argued in favor of more participation by laymen in the life of the convention, urging that the meeting be held on weekends instead of week days to allow more laymen to attend.

The motion was opposed by several pastors who argued meeting on weekends would drain leadership from church worship services and force the convention to conduct business Sunday. One minister decried "the implication that ministers don't have much to do anyway."

The total goal includes a \$600,000 "advance" section; with 35 per cent or \$1.7 million of the basic \$5 million goal going to Southern Baptist Convention mission causes, 57 per cent to Missouri convention causes, and eight per cent to special denominational causes.

sale and distribution of the Broadman Bible Commentary published by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. Perkins said he was disturbed because three churches in the Dayton area were "about to leave" the SBC "over the commentary."

One unidentified messenger responded by saying, "I don't believe that we are competent to vote on this." He noted that he had not read the commentary, and did not believe most of the messengers to the state convention had done so.

Almost immediately, there was a motion to table. It was approved overwhelmingly, convention observers reported.

## Ohio Tables Motion Opposing The Sale Of SBC Commentary

CINCINNATI, Ohio (BP)—With almost no debate and discussion, the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio tabled a motion opposing the sale and distribution of the Broadman Bible Commentary.

Later during the convention, however, the convention adopted on second reading a constitutional change approving the 1963 Statement of Baptist Faith and Message as the doctrinal stance of the convention, and approved a resolution reaffirming "our continuing faith in the infallibility of the Bible as the work of God."

Convention officials pointed out, however, that there was no relationship between the two actions, and there was no doctrinal controversy among the messengers.

Ernest Perkins, pastor of First Baptist Church, Miamisburg, Ohio, made the motion from the floor asking that the convention oppose the

## West Virginia Ups Cooperative Gifts

HUNTINGTON, W. Va. (BP)—The West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists meeting here adopted several constitutional changes re-elected its president, approved plans for future growth, and adopted a budget authorizing an increase of the percentage going to support world missions causes through the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program.

Churches of the convention were challenged to begin at least one new mission in 1973, to train 20 per cent of their members in personal evangelism through the Witness Involvement Now (W.I.N.) materials, and to be involved in W.I.N. evangelism clinics and People-to-People search programs.

The convention voted to keep the state convention offices at their present location in St. Albans, W. Va., "temporarily."

## Cooperative Receipts Up 7.5% For 1972

Mississippi Baptist Cooperative Program receipts for the first ten months of this year, through October, totaled \$3,848,508, according to Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, Jackson, Executive Secretary - treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

This is a gain of \$267,033 or 7.5 percent over the \$3,581,475 given the same period of 1971, Dr. Hudgins added.

Receipts for October totaled \$325,901, a decrease of \$91,811 or 21.9 percent under the \$417,712 given in October of last year.



Top photo, Mrs. Frank Gray, one of First, Waynesboro's oldest members, is greeted by friends and visitors during the church's historical commemoration. Bottom photo: Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Walley, left; Mrs. Owen Cooper; and Owen Cooper, SBC president. Mr. Cooper was guest speaker for Waynesboro's special day; Dr. Walley was head of the Program Committee. (Photos by Vicki Hicks)

## Waynesboro Looks Back

By Vicki Hicks

Time was reversed for the members of First Church, Waynesboro recently: Men and women dressed in shades of the past — tails, spats, stovepipe hats and whiskers for the men; long flowing dresses, ruffled pin-afores and colorful bonnets for the women. Several came to the downtown church via the transportation of their grandparents — mules and horses. Mountains of food were piled on long tables as dinner on the ground got underway on the cool fall day.

The occasion? A special day commemorating the history of First Baptist Church.

The celebration began as one in which First Church would celebrate 150 years of existence. The year 1822 appears in state records as the "official" organization date for the pioneer church, previously known as the First Church.

But as the church's historical committee dug back into time, searching for relics and interesting facts, it became apparent that Waynesboro's pioneer church is much older than anyone had expected.

So the celebration that had started out to honor a sesquicentennial of services was transformed into a special day in which the history of First Baptist Church was commemorated.

One of the many special things about the October 29 commemoration was the return of former members and friends to First Baptist. Featured speaker during the morning worship service was Owen Cooper, president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In addressing the congregation, Cooper commended them for their outstanding service in the past and for holding fast the landmark principles set down by pioneers of the church. Cooper presented this challenge: "We must look to the future as an open door and continue to be the church which will help win the world to Christ."

Other special visitors who took part in the day's services were Mr. and Mrs. Clark Adams of Clarke College and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bergdolt of Mobile College. Both Bergdolt and Bergdolt have served as interim ministers of music at First Baptist Church.

Herbert Valentine, a former minister of music and present interim music minister there, led the choir in special songs throughout the day.

Bringing the message during the afternoon service was Dr. Eugene

## Renewal Volunteers

ing renewal initially through lay renewal weekends, lay-led revivals, and church renewal conferences, Hardin said. They will also encourage continuing efforts with churches for a 12 to 24-month period.

"We think we can see not only the laity alive, but churches and individuals developing a whole new life style," said Sanderson, secretary of evangelism for the Louisiana Baptist Convention. His major role in the equipping process will be the definition and development of a life style of evangelism.

Hardin said that Edge, director of the Vineyard Conference Center in Louisville and longtime leader in the Christian renewal movement, will lead in a special emphasis on overall renewal strategies.

Clemmons, a staff member of the Baptist Sunday School Board in vocational guidance, will encourage the use of personal disciples for continuing spiritual growth.

The 11 associates, who will be pay-



## Big Start

After enrolling 102 new Sunday School members during October, Greenville, First leaders map strategy for continuing growth. Seated from left are outreach director, Roy Mitchell, and Sunday School director Murry Alexander. Standing are Bob Harrelson, minister of education, left, and Barry Landrum, pastor. The 102 enrolled in the one month "is only one short of total new members for the year 1970-71."

ing their own way and receiving no salary, grew out of a small group of 31 called together by Hardin last August at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. At that time they committed themselves to a two-year effort in renewal.

Edge, a member of the initial group, said at the Toccoa meeting that in the past renewal emphasis has been personal and mostly at meetings outside the churches, but now a new dimension has been added — that is the institutional, the role of the church itself.

"We see now that really the action is in the local church. In the past if you wanted to show courage you got out of the church. Now it is a mark of courage to stay in the church," Edge said.

"I have heard laymen say, 'If only we could get the pastor fired up.' Then on the other side, the pastor says, 'If we could get the people fired up.' God is trying to get through to a real spiritual awakening," Edge said. Hardin added the associates will be a "hard core" group who will work with interested laymen and pastors. In addition to the core of associates are 15 catalysts, who will attend a yearly training session at the Vineyard and be "on call" to serve as leaders in renewal events.

"Most everyone at this conference has been involved in some type of lay renewal, either as a pastor or in their company or business; we don't want to 'piggy back' these, but to plug into these same areas. The associates will not be involved in lay ministries themselves, but in training individuals in their local areas," Hardin added.

A projected goal, Hardin said, is that the 10 people equipped by each of the associates will form a team of regional resource persons, who then will train and recommend to the churches 50,000 local resource people.

The ultimate team of 50,000, Hardin said will facilitate renewal evangelism through training lay teams; orientation and consultation for associations, churches, and state convention agencies; resource for state and local renewal evangelism strategies; and grass roots ministry of experimentation and evaluation.



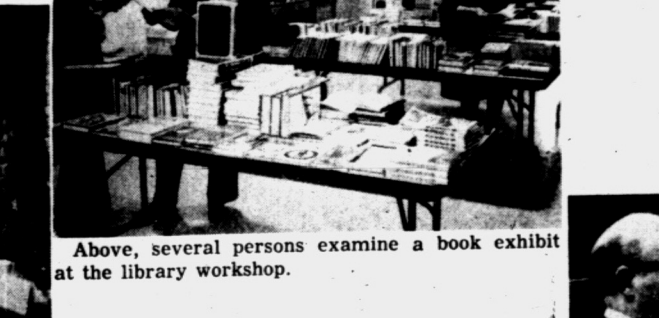
Wayne Todd, director of Church Library Services, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, was the principal speaker for the first statewide library workshop, held at First Church, Louisville, and at Lake Tiak O'Khata near Louisville, Nov. 3-4.



The workshop, sponsored by the newly-organized Mississippi Baptist Church Library Organization, began on Friday evening with a smorgasbord banquet.



Mrs. A. M. Jordan, Jackson, president, Mississippi Baptist Church Library Organization, presided at the banquet.



Above, several persons examine a book exhibit at the library workshop.



The program included a panel conducted by the faculty. One hundred and forty persons from 57 churches attended the workshop sessions.



Rev. Vernon May, pastor, is pictured with the library workers at First Church, Louisville. Left to right: Pastor May; Mrs. G. R. Ivy, director of technical processes; Mrs. R. B. Fulcher, associate director of library services; Mrs. Wm. H. Hight, director of library services.



Leaders in the workshop included officers of the Mississippi Baptist Church Library Organization. Left to right are Wayne Todd, director, Church Library Services, BSSB; Mrs. Harvey Leake, Woodville, historian; Mrs. Rex Burrow, Rosedale, program chairman; Mrs. W. H. Hight, Louisville, publicity; Bryant Cummings, director, Sunday School Department, MCB; Mrs. Louis Ensen, Meridian, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. A. M. Jordan, Jackson, president; and Mrs. Curtis Mullen, Jackson, vice-president.

## First Statewide Library Workshop



J. T. Smith of Louisville, left, soloist for the library meeting was accompanied by Mrs. Edwin McNeill.



The library of First Church, Louisville (a corner of it is pictured) contains over 3700 books, over 300 film strips, and is beginning a library of cassette tapes.



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## EDITORIAL

### God's Plan Of Church Finance

Churches all across the state, and throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, are adopting budgets for their 1973 work, and are seeking ways of enlisting such support from their membership that the budgets can be met. Some churches have a record of successfully meeting their budgets year after year, while some others continually find that church finance is something of a struggle. What is the secret of underwriting the church financial program in such a manner that the needs always can be met, without serious problems?

First of all, there should be prayerful and watchful care in setting up programs and budgets. This does not mean such caution that there is no room for growth and expansion, or neglect of actual needs of those who serve the congregation. It does mean that the congregation should carefully consider what God wants it to do, what it can do in fulfilling that purpose, and what it should attempt as a worthy program. This would avoid over-building, over-expansion and over-spending, but it would set and work to achieve reasonable and reachable goals.

Second, is the necessity for a program of teaching and enlistment of the people in obedience to the Lord's program of church finance. The Bible clearly reveals how church work is to be supported, and the church does not need to go outside that revealed plan to provide adequate financing for its work. There will be no need for schemes and worldly plans, nor will

there need to be pressuring or begging to meet the needs of the work, when God's plan is accepted, taught and followed.

What is God's plan? Basically it is Christian stewardship. God is the owner and we are the stewards, held responsible to use all that we are and all that we have for the glory of God. When this is understood and accepted, it will make it much easier to do all else that the Lord requires.

The expression of that stewardship, as far as possessions are concerned, is through tithes and offerings. The tithes and offerings of God's people, brought to the Lord's house regularly, will more than meet the financial needs of any church anywhere.

Moreover, every Christian can afford to tithe. We repeat that statement with emphasis: EVERY CHRISTIAN CAN AFFORD TO TITHE. Some feel that they cannot because they have so little. Others feel that they cannot because the tithe would be so much. Both are mistaken. If a person has little, God still expects him to give the tithe of that little, but God's blessing upon him with what remains will more than make up for what has been given. This has been proved tens of thousands of times. "Prove me now . . . and see . . ." said the Lord in Malachi 3, and it has been tested again and again. If a person has a large income, the Lord expects not only the tithe, but also gifts beyond that. Even bringing the tithe and more, will not deny the giver of life's necessities, but if it did, the joy

and blessing in giving would more than offset the denial which might come. If the tithe is too much, pastors and fellow Christians cannot pray for God to cut the amount required, but they can pray that God will cut the income down to where the recipient feels that the tithe of it is not too much to give.

The tithes and offerings of all of the people, rich, and poor, will more than meet every need of the church and the whole kingdom program of the Lord. It is estimated by men who make studies of the giving record, that Southern Baptists are giving about one-fourth of the tithe at the present time. Whereas, we are giving on the offering plates about \$1,000,000,000 per year, the tithe would be more than \$4,000,000,000. Suppose we cut that by 1/4 in order to be sure the estimates are not too high. Think of what that \$3,000,000,000 of the Lord's money that Southern Baptists are keeping in their own pockets, would do for church programs, buildings, debts, institutions, evangelism, missions, etc., not only in the local church, but, through the denomination, to the very "ends of the earth." And that is just one year's "extra"; consider its meaning year after year. And, every Baptist can and should give the tithe or more.

Here is God's plan of church support. Let us preach it, teach it, train for it, seek it, and gather it, for the building of the churches, for the glory of God, and for the blessing of the people.

It is an adequate plan for all church finance. We do not need anything else.

### The Death Of A Friend

I read the news release and then sat back to meditate, and to cry a little bit inside. If I had allowed them I am sure that tears would have welled from my eyes.

The news story told of the death of Mel Larson.

Mel lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and for the past fifteen years had been editor of the Evangelical Beacon, official publication of the Evangelical Free Church.

I first met Mel ten or 12 years ago at one of the conventions of the Evangelical Press Association. From time to time the fellowship was renewed at these and other meetings. The last time I talked to him was when I was passing through the Minneapolis Airport on the way to or from Montana. We had a pleasant visit via the telephone.

A year or two ago at the Evangelical Press meeting it was announced that Mel was unable to attend because of illness. Cancer had struck, and he and the doctors were fighting for his life.

Last week the disease conquered, and

at 56, Mel Larson laid down his pen, to enter into his eternal home. Mel had kept working and writing, right up to the last. According to the news release, his last writing was just a week before his death.

Mel Larson was a warm-hearted, friendly Christian, who radiated Christian love and Christian living. His broad smile and warm handshake drew one to him, and all who knew him, counted him as a friend. He was an able writer, having written 23 books, but also was a great editor, for his publication was one of the finest in the religious field. He had a glorious faith and a continued witness for his Lord, and those of us who knew him will ever be grateful for his Christian witness.

When death moves in, as it did for him, and as it must for all men until our Lord's blessed return, then more than ever we thank God for the Christian hope. Our friends no longer can walk with us here, but live now in a fullness they never knew down here, and while they cannot return to us, we, through Christ, can look forward to being with them.

The same day that I read the story concerning Mel Larson, I learned of the death of another dear friend, a faithful member in a former pastorate. Just a few nights before I had stood by her bed in a Jackson hospital, and when her daughter told her who I was, there was a faint smile through the pain, and a slight squeeze of the hand indicating recognition. As I looked upon her, and prayed a moment for her, I knew that her sojourn on earth probably was near its end. Precious memories of our years of working together had flooded my soul. Now, I learned, that she too was gone.

Yes, there was a tear in my heart, and grief, but they were intermingled with joy. This was the joy that these friends had lived and blessed my life; that they had known and loved my Saviour as I love Him; that now they are with Him and are blessed by the richness of His presence; and finally that one day, I along with all others who are saved, can be with Him and with them, forever more.

This is our Hope and our Assurance! It is one of the victorious meanings of the Christian faith.

## Guest Editorial

### Do Something!

By Foy Valentine, Executive Secretary The Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

The Columbia Broadcasting System has done it again. It has scheduled "In Cold Blood" for showing on Thursday night, November 16. The movie was made from Truman Capote's chronicle of the mass murder of a Kansas family by two former convicts.

In refusing to show this morally offensive movie, executives of WLAC-TV, Nashville's CBS affiliate, said it was "too gory, too violent for showing on the home screen." Calling the film "entirely unsuitable for prime time telecasting," the Nashville station manager said, "Even in the edited version CBS showed us, the content was unacceptable. If we aired that sort of violence and language in prime time, we would be ignoring the community responsibilities we are charged with." A Christian Life Commission spot

check of CBS affiliates in seven southern states revealed that KDFW-TV in Dallas and WAGA-TV in Atlanta also were refusing to show "In Cold Blood." The spot check indicated, however, that other CBS affiliates have elected to send this gore and violence and profanity out to the homes in their viewing territory. Furthermore, when a local affiliate of CBS refuses such a film, affiliates of other networks often accept it for television showing.

A few weeks ago when a Columbia Broadcasting System official made a statement to Baptists implying the network's innocence, I said, "Let us wait and see if their future programming reflects an improvement over their former policy." We didn't have to wait long. With the scheduling of "In Cold Blood" we see that the policy of showing morally offensive movies on television has not really been changed at all.

Concerned Christians should be careful not to be worn down to exhaustion and submission by the persistence of those in the television industry who seek profit at any price.

Call or write your local television station to support them in morally responsible programming.

Be equally alert in communicating your opposition when they do not exercise moral discernment in programming.

The use of economic power with advertisers, whereby business is given to those who uphold moral decency and withheld from those who flaunt it, is not only the television viewer's right; it is a clear responsibility.

The sickening profanity and immorality continuing each week to pollute the airwaves will be checked when the people of God harness their moral outrage. Do something!

leader who has served Southern Baptists for many years.

**MEN WHO BUILD CHURCHES** by Harold A. Bosley (Abingdon, paper, 158 pp., \$2.95) Using Paul as the supreme example of Christian leadership in action, Bosley lists qualities needed by those who must lead in the church today. (The author is a Methodist minister in New York City.)

**RIVER OF LIFE** by James S. Stewart (Abingdon, 160 pp., \$3.50) Seventeen provocative sermons by a distinguished Scottish preacher. (The symbol, "River of Life," from Ezekiel's vision, encompasses the ways in which the Spirit makes all things possible.)

**DARE TO DISCIPLINE** by James Dobson (Tyndale House and Regal Books, paper, \$1.95, 224 pp.) A psychologist offers urgent advice to parents and teachers.



That All May Know Him

## THE BAPTIST FORUM

### Visitation Or Ministry?

Dear Editor:

I keep hoping for the day when Baptists will remove from their thinking and vocabulary the word "visitation." The concepts attached to this word, and methods of contact with people, have done permanent damage to our membership and to the people that we are trying to reach. We need to substitute the word "ministry" for "visitation" and "service" for "visitation."

What is a "visit"? Usually, it is a fifteen to twenty-five minute contact whereby we inform an inconsistent attendee that he is being missed at church. Usually, it must be effected on a chosen night at a chosen time. Why? So that we can tell others how large a "number" showed up?

What is a "minister"? You can't ask it that way and stay with the original train of thought. You have to ask, "What is a 'ministry'?" This question can be answered. A "ministry" is an ACT . . . an act of doing needful and helpful things; giving assistance; supplying necessities. "Empathy in action" is the way I phrase it, since "Love in action" means so little today.

"Visitation" sees a person once a week, calls attention to his spiritual needs; says that they can be met in four hours of worship, Bible study, and fellowship on Sunday, and does not return for at least six days.

"Ministry" sees a need in a person's life and does everything possible to personally satisfy that need — in and out of the church — on Sunday AND Monday AND Tuesday and any other day of the week.

"Visitation" takes a fruit basket to a needy person, and does not return for another twelve months.

"Ministry" takes a warm meal by every day or invites the needy person over to his own house for a meal.

"Visitation" says, "Let's have a hundred people here Tuesday night and see what we can do."

"Ministry" says nothing, goes quietly about his work, ALONE, and slowly turns the world upside down for Jesus.

I'm not concerned when people fail to "mass meet" for visitation. I get terribly frightened when they fail to minister.

Billy Ray Miller  
Minister of Music and Youth  
Morgantown Baptist Church  
Natchez

### Urges More Bible Teaching

Dear Editor:

After having read "The Evangelical Dilemma" by William MacDonald, I am moved to speak of a conviction which I feel my Lord has dealt with me about for some time. Christian teaching is failing simply because the Bible is not actually being taught. Our method needs working over.

Most Sunday school teaching is done from a surface application. When have we ever started at Genesis 1:1 and gone through the entire Bible, not skipping one single verse, and including the genealogies, in an attempt to actually study God's word in verbal, type, symbolic, and picture teaching? More often we hop, skip, and jump through the Good Book, explaining away valuable truths; silently agreeing that it is a closed book and not intended to be understood.

I am in agreement with the late Dr. M. R. DeHaan that first: all Scripture has one primary interpretation; second: all Scripture has several practical applications; and third: most Scripture passages have a prophetic revelation.

For the most part, those I have talked with want to go deeper than personal application



### A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

There were tears at our house last night. Some of them spilled over, and some of them didn't.

It must have been one of the most unusual experiences for all of us who were at prayer meeting. Looking back, I remember that at supper in the large dining hall I had thought when Mr. Godard walked toward me and smiled so happily and walked on to join those with whom he ate. He surely does look healthy and happy.

Less than an hour later Mr. Godard had stepped into the eternal presence of God. He became ill in the business meeting portion of the Wednesday evening activities. Our pastor suggested that we all move away from the sanctuary as the arrival of the ambulance was anxiously awaited. Especially did he want the children to leave. Somehow many of us could not bring ourselves to leave. The children wanted to stay, too. Teenagers wanted to remain. The desires to stay were not from curiosity but from love. So many of those there had come under the leadership of Mr. Godard in some church activity or another that they were too interested to leave.

It was a hushed time, emotions draining all of us. Soon, yet long, the ambulance came.

One of the boys who lives at our house sat in the sanctuary and wept softly for the condition of his friend. Mr. Godard became Frank's friend while Frank was in his Sunday School class last year. Every boy in that class had a personal friendship with the teacher, nurtured joyfully along through the week as well as on Sundays.

When the news came, scarcely a surprise, that Mr. Godard had passed from death into life, there were quiet tears at our house.

At the same time my mother-heart ached for my son's sadness, it rejoiced in Frank's blessings that he had such a friend. After the tears have gone and the hurt is eased, Frank will always have Mr. Godard's love.

teaching — they want to know more about the pages of the Bible that are seldom taught.

The time has come to do more verse by verse, consistent teaching which, I believe, will drive more to be interested in the study of God's Word. Needless to say that to hop, skip, and jump with our teaching tends to be confusing and leaves much to be desired in the learning process.

I pray the day will come when Southern Baptists will cease being Rabbit teachers and settle down to the real enlightening business of teaching and studying the Word from beginning to end.

(Mrs.) Andrew Beard  
Louisville, Ms.

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515 Mississippi Street  
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Joe T. Odle Editor  
Joe Abrams Associate Editor  
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate  
William H. Sellers Bus. Manager

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W. Douglas Hudgins Executive Secretary  
The Baptist Building  
Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

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# Baptists Reminded Of Roots Of Freedom

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of religious liberty simply because it holds an apathetic view toward religion and seeks to avoid for purely religious communities themselves.  
Or, Wood continued, religious liberty may be viewed not as an inalienable right, but as a concession to be granted by the state only insofar as religious liberty is not in conflict with the individual citizen's national allegiance and loyalty.  
Such pragmatic bases "will not suffice to sustain the principle or to prevent religious coercion, discrimination and-or persecution during a

crisis period of our nation's history," Wood warned. "To be secure," he said, "religious liberty must ultimately find its basis or rationale within one's religious faith, within one's value system."  
Wood listed three "roots of liberty" in his address. For Christians, he said, "liberty is theologically rooted first of all of God's nature and in his dealings with men." The Biblical basis for religious freedom is not in single passages of scripture, rather it is in God's whole way of approaching mankind, he explained.  
"God-given, man's personhood is

the foundation stone of man's right to religious liberty," he declared. "Religious liberty, therefore, is the recognition of the right of the individual acting alone or in community. It is not a gift of the state," Wood said.  
In the second place, religious liberty is "rooted in the inviolable sacredness of the human conscience." Basic to all of man's moral rights is religious liberty, without which all of man's civil rights are abridged, Wood explained.  
The third "root" of religious liberty, Wood listed, is "the sinful nature of man." No Christian and indeed no church is entitled to the claim of having attained to any final, infallible dogmas of truth, he explained.  
"The sinful nature of man negates the possibility of the absolutizing of human authority, religious or political," the Baptist historian said.  
Wood's paper, along with other ad-

resses made to the conference, will be published in a report of the conference. The findings and suggestions of the participants will be relayed to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs for further study before particular recommendations are made to the eight Baptist denominations in the United States that are a part of the Baptist Joint Committee.

## Men's Meeting - - -

(Continued from page 1)  
ers: Ben Connell; Royal Ambassador leadership, leader, committeemen and counselors: Clayton Gilbert, both of the Brotherhood Commission, Memphis.  
David Herrington, a pioneer royal Ambassador from Trinity Baptist Church, Philadelphia, will share a visual presentation regarding his mission work tour to Mexico this summer.  
Other officers of the Men's Conference who were re-elected are as follows: Dr. Howard Carpenter, Senatobia, vice - president; Farrell Blankenship, Hattiesburg, secretary; Norris Edmonson, Natchez, Baptist men's leader; Woody Burt, Newton, R. A. leader.  
The Men's Conference is related to the Convention through the Brotherhood Department.

## State Native - - -

(Continued from page 1)  
For three years she was field representative for the Louisiana WMU, and for two years director of young women's work for the Georgia WMU.  
Miss Stewart, a native of Caesar, Miss., near Lumberton, attended Pearl River Junior College, Poplarville, Miss. She was graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, and received the master of religious education degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.  
As a student Miss Stewart was a summer missionary in Denver and in Phoenix for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, and she was a staffer at Camp Garaywa in Jackson, Miss.  
She told members of the Foreign Mission Board that she had no sense of purpose of direction in life until a youth revival in the summer of 1952. At that time, she said, she placed her life in God's hands.  
"That was the beginning," she added, "of a very wonderful and exciting venture with the Lord as I have followed His plan for me and have experienced the working of His Spirit in my life."  
While attending seminary she became increasingly aware, she said, of the great spiritual needs of the world and began to feel that God was calling her to missionary service.  
"Now I feel that God is leading me at this time to serve Him overseas and I am making myself available to go where He leads."

## Clergyman Describes - - -

(Continued from page 1)  
vision for closing of window spaces when necessary.  
"On the two lower decks the food and water for these creatures, perhaps weighing some thousands of tons, was stored in bins or containers."  
The Montgomery book contains accounts of expeditions to Mount Ararat, including a team of Frenchmen who reportedly saw a ship's hull frozen in glacial ice on an expedition in 1952.  
It also contains the transcript of an interview with an elderly Armenian who, as a boy in 1902, reportedly saw the remains of the ark.

## Outstanding Men - - -

(Continued from page 1)  
our leading thinkers believe the old ship of Zion (the Church) has sprung so many leaks on a sea of criticism that it cannot survive."  
Dr. Kelly said we need to "discover what the church is not, then, on the other hand, if the church has deviated from its intended pattern, we need to rediscover what the church is."  
He said the church is not an authoritarian despotism of truth, is not an organization based upon apostolic succession, and is not necessarily a fellowship which has submitted itself to some particular ceremony or which adheres to a particular creed.  
Calling the church a body, a bride and a military band, Dr. Kelly said the church "is that fellowship of divinely called out persons, who have experienced the new birth, and who have made Jesus Christ the boss of their lives."  
Admitting the church has been through many storms, he said, "If we will stop and take a fix on our position we will discover we aren't home yet, and the church is the only mode of transportation headed in that direction."

## Baptist Leader - - -

(Continued from page 1)  
he received training in counseling and in administration.  
While attending William Carey and the seminary Mr. Lundy served as pastor of churches in Lucedale, Laurel, Pascagoula and Richton.  
Mr. Lundy later served for three years as Superintendent of Association Missions for Marion, Lawrence, and Walthall Counties, with his headquarters at Columbia.  
The nine years in a similar capacity at Greenville followed, after which he was selected by Parchman Superintendent John Allen Collier to accompany him to the State Penitentiary as head chaplain.  
In his new position The Rev. Mr. Lundy will be responsible for Parchman personnel, for maintenance and construction, and for the chaplaincy program. He also will continue to do some of the preaching.  
"I've known Chaplain Lundy for many years," Collier said, "and when this office became vacant, my eyes fell on him. He has executive ability and he knows how to deal with people, so I think he will be an ideal man for this responsibility as my assistant."  
The Rev. Mr. Lundy was born and

## Winders Honored For 28 Years Of Service In Student Work

Rev. Ralph B. Winders, director of the Department of Student Work, was honored at the recent State Baptist Student Convention in Gulfport upon the occasion of his 28 consecutive years of service in Baptist student work.  
Mr. Winders has served as director of student work in Mississippi for 16 years and was head of student work for Virginia Baptists for 13 years just prior to coming to the state.  
Mr. Winders, completely surprised, was presented with a travel clock radio from the directors of student work in the state as a token of appreciation for his service.  
Rev. Louie Farmer, Jr., director of student work at the University of Southern Mississippi, and "dean" of directors in the state, made the presentation.

## Arkabutla Homecoming

Arkabutla Church will observe Homecoming and Building Fund Day on Sunday, November 19. The homecoming message will be brought by Rev. Bobby Walton, pastor, at 11:00 a.m.  
Following the noon meal, provided by the resident members, a musical program has been planned for 2 p.m. by the church choir. The choir will present a recital of religious music. Mr. Betts is a full time evangelistic song leader.  
In connection with this day, the church will attempt to raise \$4,000.00 to be applied toward its present building indebtedness.  
Members, former members and friends are invited.

# Gracious Mississippian Is Baptists' First Lady

By Marjorie Rowden  
She's charming  
She's dedicated and talented  
She's excited about life  
She's Southern Baptists' "first lady" — and she is Mrs. Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Mississippi!  
The year was 1938. One of Southern Baptists' most illustrious welcoming committees stood in the Jackson, Mississippi train depot waiting for the arrival of a vivacious young BSU director from Louisiana Tech. As the Illinois - Central train from Ruston pulled into the station Dr. Chester Swor, Dr. William Hall Preston, and a young business man named Owen Cooper greeted Miss Elizabeth Thompson.  
After a hurried meal together, Elizabeth was taken by Dr. Swor and by Dr. Hall to a BSU meeting in progress on the Mississippi College campus. Owen Cooper — age 29, bachelor, budding business executive, "volunteer" city-wide BSU coordinator, and devoted Christian — returned to his office and remarked to his secretary, "I have just met the young woman I am going to marry."

And marry her he did! — Just three dates later, while at Ridgecrest, they became engaged and within six months Elizabeth became Mrs. Owen Cooper. Thirty-four years and five wonderful children later they are still "living happily ever after."  
A native of Madison, Georgia and a graduate of Agnes Scott College, Elizabeth Cooper was reared in a home where her parents were committed to Christian living at its best. Her father, an active Baptist layman, was the Georgia statewide chairman of the Seventy-Five Million Campaign.  
At Agnes Scott, Elizabeth remembers that she changed her major from biology to chemistry because "my bugs kept dying." For one year after graduation, she worked in a clinical laboratory position at Georgia Baptist Hospital in Atlanta.  
"Since our marriage," says Mrs. Cooper, "Owen and I have shared one single goal in life — to begin each day with a renewed desire that Jesus Christ live again through us. We want to reach out as He did, realizing that wherever we try to meet a need in

Christ's name that He is there in all of His greatness and power."  
And Elizabeth Cooper lives up to her goal. Her life is busier now than ever before. Even with the five children grown and gone from home, her days are full and exciting. A favorite project is the Christian Service Center, a mission action program of her First Baptist Church in Yazoo City, Mississippi. Elizabeth helps collect, sort and distribute clothes, food and other basic needs to underprivileged persons.  
"Our Center also seeks to aid people with medical and dental problems, with information on planned parenthood, and it serves as a referral agency for other needs," comments Mrs. Cooper, with a real gleam of enthusiasm in her voice. As the project's chairman, she has helped distribute over 10,000 garments this year.  
Another commented interest which Elizabeth Cooper has is her role as president of the All-India Prayer Fellowship. The organization was incorporated in June of this year following the Coopers' visit to India and their deep concern for Christian work in that land. "We hope to develop training and support for evangelistic missions throughout India," she says.

When the Coopers' five children were growing up their mother often said to them, "Your father and I make no apology for having done everything we could to make it hard for you NOT to become committed Christians."  
Elizabeth Cooper's philosophy of daily dedication to God's challenges has never wavered — but different and exciting ways of fulfilling this philosophy have developed through the years. "For the immediate future," she says, "I see my place by Owen's side, helping him in any way possible to be spiritually and physically ready to accept the tremendous responsibilities and opportunities that are his as president of the Southern Baptist Convention."  
Mrs. Owen Cooper has commanded the love and respect of all who have known her. She is gracious, capable and self-less in her service. But, perhaps her husband has reasons to honor and appreciate her more than any other. Separated recently from her for only a few hours (because of her duties as a William Carey College trustee), Owen Cooper flew his plane into Hattiesburg, asked where his wife was resting while waiting for him to arrive to deliver a banquet address, and then smilingly said, "I have two hours until banquet time. Take me to where Elizabeth is. Wherever my wife is — that's where I want to be too!" He's proud of her — and so are all Mississippi Baptists!



William Carey College alumni and trustees attending the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson this week paid tribute at a special breakfast on Wednesday morning (Nov. 15) to Mrs. Owen Cooper, "first lady of Southern Baptists" and wife of President Owen Cooper of the Southern Baptist Convention. Mrs. Cooper, a busy and talented Mississippian, poses above with twin granddaughters, Edith and Elizabeth Gilbert of Jackson. An active member of the William Carey College Board of Trustees, Mrs. Cooper is also involved in state WMU work, mission-action projects and, primarily this year, in travel with her husband.

Mrs. Cooper has held many positions in both her local church and in state-wide WMU work. She has traveled extensively with her husband to mission fields around the world. She is serving admirably as a valuable trustee of William Carey College, and she is beginning the most exciting career of her life as wife of the president of the Southern Baptist Convention!  
"Owen will be retiring from the Mississippi Chemical Corporation in May," she comments. "It is a perfect time for him to devote his full time to the work of a denomination which he loves so deeply. I feel that he has much to offer as a layman in this role of leadership among Southern Baptists."  
Elizabeth Cooper is her husband's number one admirer. "In thirty-four years I have never seen him angry," she smiles. "He is the most creative and consistent Christian I have ever known!"  
Mrs. Owen Cooper has made a and maintained a charming hand com-

Nothing is quite so annoying as to have someone go right on talking when you're interrupting.  
America has become so tense and nervous it has been years since I've seen anyone asleep in church — and that is a sad situation. — Norman Vincent Peale.



GLORIETA, N. M. — CHAPARRAL INN — Located 18 miles east of Santa Fe, N.M., Glorieta is owned and operated by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.—(BSSB Photo)

## I Went Again... To Glorieta

By Eunice J. Campbell  
News of the Rocky Mountain Bible Conference first reached me with my June 1st annuity check. "I'll go," I promised myself, "I'll fly out to Glorieta."  
Except for Baptist Women, Convention Board personnel and church staff in some of the larger churches, few Mississippi Baptists know first-hand what Glorieta is like. Why not take some other persons with me?  
Minister of Activities is a new staff position in First Baptist Church, Vicksburg, filled quite capably since May of this year by Russell (Rusty) Griffin. When approached, he was interested. We made tentative plans. Rusty agreed to take care of all the arrangements if I would get the people. We set to work. Mrs. J. J. Newman and I made a list of all the persons on the Sunday school roll above age fifty, then contacted everyone of them by telephone. With the help of the pastor, Dr. John G. McCall, the Sunday School Director, Herman Hossfeld, Adult S. S. Director, Durwood Tadlock, the Executive Committee, and the church in business session, thirty-five persons signed up to go on the chartered bus. We departed from the church parking lot at sunrise, September 30. Dr. McCall was on hand to lead us in prayer for a safe journey and a meaningful experience.  
In East Texas, we had our first opportunity for group fellowship. At a beautiful roadside park, we spread the box lunches Rusty had provided. The day was chilly; just right for a picnic. Also in our group besides members of Vicksburg First, was a member of the Bowman Avenue Baptist Church, a member of the Puckett Baptist Church (Rankin County) and three members of the Crawford Street Methodist Church, Vicksburg.  
We had planned an easy three-day trip and even though we had many stretch and coffee stops, we ran ahead of schedule all the way. The first night was spent at Fort Worth, Texas, where Dr. John Earl Seelig, Public Relations Department executive, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, had made provision for us to have supper at the seminary and to spend the night at a new, inexpensive motel. We enjoyed a guided tour of the seminary.  
The second night was spent at Lubbock where eight of us piled into one taxicab and went to First Baptist Church, arriving just in time to hear Dr. Carl Bates preach the second in a series of revival services. Soloist for the revival was J. Robert Bradley of Memphis, Tennessee, head of the Music Department for the National Baptist Convention. Dr. Hope Owen is interim pastor.  
Early on Monday we departed Lubbock, arriving at Glorieta at mid-afternoon. I noted many changes since my last visit, in 1966, when I went at the gracious insistence of Dr. Joe T. Odle, on whose Baptist Record staff I had the privilege of serving.  
The name has changed. More appropriate to the purpose and use of these magnificent facilities is the recently adopted name, Glorieta Baptist Conference Center. Aspens lining either side of the walkway leading up the terrace gardens to the prayer garden have grown tall and sturdy, almost overlapping the walkway. Now they were all shimmering gold against the dull green of pinon and juniper. I thought of my dear friend, Cecil Pragnell, who had visualized this splendor when he set the small saplings in place in the early fifties.  
Accustomed to receiving many hundreds of persons each week in the summers, I was unprepared for the intentionally small number attending this conference; one of five this autumn and two next April. Changed too,

was the conference leader. Mark Short, Manager of the Assembly, presided at each session, leading in congregational singing and occasionally singing a solo in his rich, tenor voice.  
Food had changed. Who ever expected to be served a slice of roast beef instead of hamburger meat or "train wreck"? Or a baked potato, asparagus, guacamole salad or lemon tart (not pudding) baked in its own individual tart shell? Free snacks were provided for this group in the chuck wagon between conferences and after evening worship. Hot fruit juice after evening worship recalled a hike up Glorieta Canyon in fifteen inches of snow, followed by hot fruit juice served by Bonnie and Allison Herron and shared with Louise and Cecil Pragnell, in front of a comforting fire in the ranch house fireplace.  
The beautiful auditorium has changed from the unfinished state in 1959 when I was there for the writers' conference. The many colored towers, most impressive after darkness envelops the countryside.  
The gardens have changed as buildings have been completed. I mourned the loss of the delphinium, Glorieta strain, so carefully nurtured by Mr. Pragnell. In 1966 I was told they were trying to bring back the delphinium, but the master's hand is gone. I was surprised that the gardens were as fresh and colorful as in mid-summer although two frosts had fallen in September.  
Some things remain the same.  
The quality of conference leaders was excellent. Dr. Franklin Segler, newly retired from his professorship at Southwestern Seminary, led us in a most helpful study of Psalms, very meaningful to our special group. Dr. Donald Ackland of Nashville, Tennessee, not long retired from the staff of the Sunday School Board, led in a study of the Sermon on the Mount. These leaders held our interest every second, while I tried to take notes in my long dormant shorthand. Dr. J. Earl Mead, for thirty-six years minister of education at Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Dallas, was the evening inspirational speaker. We all came away feeling we would like to hear these gentlemen again, soon.  
The first afternoon, I left my friends strolling near the dining hall and went on pilgrimage to Cottage 6. They have not changed the colors! Turquoise paint still defines the doors and windows against the golden brown of the logs. This tiny cottage was my home for two years. Family and friends visited me here. I stood a long time remembering and wondered if the present occupant stood inside, looking out, wondering why I stood so long in front of his house.  
The solitude is even more noticeable; the grounds are still clean — not a scrap of paper to be seen anywhere. Warm fellowship and friendly greetings are heartening as one strolls about the grounds. The little village of Glorieta has made a post office out of the railroad station and a candle shop has been added to the village "business district."  
Afternoons were free and we made good use of these free periods. Old Santa Fe is the same, also the Taos Pueblo, the Ski Basin, and Loca Cocina restaurant where we enjoyed the delightful atmosphere and delectable Mexican food.  
Our own group grew into a close fellowship as we chatted in front of the open fire in Texas Hall. One of our members said "I experienced a sense of renewal at Glorieta." That is what it was all about. We call ourselves the Glorieta Group of '72. We are sure there will be a Glorieta Group of '73.  
The conference closed appropriately with Mark Short singing "There is a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place."



## Names In The News

The American Council on Alcohol Problems in its biennial Board Meeting in Green Lake, Wisconsin, unanimously elected Dr. John L. Smith of Birmingham, Alabama as Executive Director.



He began his duties October 1. Dr. Smith is the Executive Director of the Alabama Council on Alcohol Problems and will continue to serve in that position as well as the ACAP position. He will maintain offices both in Alabama and in Washington, D. C. A native of Alabama, Dr. Smith served as a Southern Baptist pastor and evangelist for almost 25 years. Prior to this he was a Captain in the U. S. Air Force and a Navigator.

Lt. Governor William Winter was the main speaker at the annual First Church, Meridian Stewardship Rally, Wednesday, November 15. First Church has subscribed its budget on the first day of the campaign for the past six years. The year's edition of the budget is in the amount of \$250,000. An intensive educational campaign has been carried out for three weeks prior to pledge day which will be Sunday, November 19. This year's campaign theme has been centered on paintings of Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper." A new song written by Paul Laughlin, son of John Laughlin, minister of music, entitled "Remember Me" has been the campaign theme song. The Steering Committee of the campaign has been composed of: Dr. Harry Causey, Chairman; Jack Kitman, in charge of Budget Promotion; John Robbins, Chairman Budget Planning; and Ralph Meaders, Chairman of Budget Pledging.

### Paul Church Calls Pastor

Rev. Ron Madison has accepted the pastorate of Paul Church, Tallahassee, following a month's mission in Alaska. Both Mr. and Mrs. Madison have B. A. degrees, his in music from Henderson in Arkansas, and hers in Spanish from Blue Mountain College. Both are now enrolled in New Orleans Seminary. They are residing in the Paul Church parsonage at the address of Scobey, Ms.

### Rivers Plans To Enter Full-Time Evangelism

Former Mississippi, Rev. C. E. Rivers, pastor of Pleasant Grove Church, Rt. 1, Harrisburg, Arkansas, has announced that he is planning to enter full-time evangelism.



He says, "I have been praying for 16 years about going into full-time evangelistic work, and now by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ I am going to do it. I gave my heart and life to this when I was in Clarke College, and the time has come for me to start."

Rivers attended Clarke College and East Central Junior College in Mississippi, and spent three years at Baptist Bible Institute in Graceville, Fla. He has 100 hours credit from the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension program.

His pastoral work has been in churches in Mississippi, California, Florida and Arkansas. He also has done Associational work, maintained a radio ministry for a period, and preached in many revivals.

He has been in his present church for some time and is very happy there, but says that he feels the pressing urge to enter the evangelistic field. Churches interested in using his services are united to write him at the above address or to call him at Area 501-578-2800.

### OLD BIBLES REBOUND

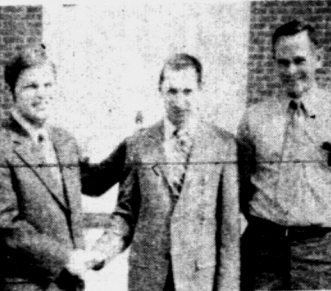
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**FORMER MISSISSIPPIANS IN TEXAS** — A trio of former residents of the Magnolia State, generally, and students at Mississippi College, specifically, were together in Fort Worth, Texas, where they attended a meeting of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission's Board of Trustees — the first such meeting attended by advisory board members from other Baptist agencies. Talking with Dr. Paul M. Stevens (left), president of the Radio - TV Commission, were Dr. Grady C. Cothen (center), president of New Orleans Seminary, and Dr. Fred Baker Moseley of Atlanta, executive secretary - treasurer of the Home Mission Board. — Radio - TV Commission Photo



Rev. C. Lonnie Earnest, left, pastor of New Hope Church, Rt. 2, Foxworth, presents a 17-year pin to B. B. Stringer, center, for perfect attendance in the Sunday school. Paul Rowell, right, is Sunday school director.

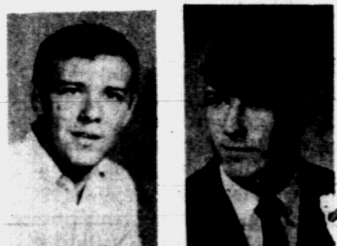


Sherri Coleman, 16-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Lee Coleman, recently received her 9-year perfect attendance Sunday School pin from Calvary Church, Corinth. Rev. Ralph Culp is the pastor and Emile Wegman is Sunday School director.

Rev. David Al Myers, assistant pastor, First Church, Florence, South Carolina, has been

named to appear in the 1972 volume of "Outstanding Young Men of America." Son of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Myers of Brandon, he is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary. Myers is married to Brenda Hooks of Greenwood, and they have a son, Ande, and daughter, Marley.

Rev. and Mrs. Robert T. Golmon, missionaries to Malaysia, are the parents of a third child, Erica Angelyn, born Oct. 2. A native of Mississippi, Mr. Golmon was born in Franklin County.



First Church, Tutwiler, recently licensed Russell Reid, left, and Manuel Weeks, right, to the ministry. Both of these young men are students at Delta State College in Cleveland. They are available for supply preaching or a part-time pastorate, and can be reached through First Baptist Church, Tutwiler, Rev. Jimmy Martin, pastor.

## Revival Dates

**First Church, Columbia:** Thanksgiving Revival; November 24-26; services at 7 p.m.; Dr. R. G. Lee of Memphis, Tennessee, speaker; Dr. Genter Stephens of New Orleans, Louisiana, will lead the singing; Dr. H. H. Aultman, pastor.

### Calvary Calls Pastor

Rev. Tommy Purvis, pictured, has accepted the pastorate of Calvary Church, Scott Association, and he and his family have moved to the field.



A native of Polkville, he is a graduate of Clarke College. He has served as pastor of Burnside Church, Nesha-ba Association, and Rock Branch Church, Newton Association.

Mrs. Purvis is the former Gloria Means of Puckett. They have one daughter, Melanie, age 11 months.

## REVIVAL RESULTS

**Magnolia Street Church, Jackson:** Oct. 30 - November 5; evangelist Rick Ingle, Denton, Texas; singer Floyd Grice, Laurel; 75 professions of faith; 3 additions by letter; 50 public rededications; Rev. Wayne Dubose, pastor.

### Mission Hill To Celebrate Homecoming With Open House

Mission Hill Church near Wesson extends to former members and friends an invitation to Homecoming services and Open House of their newly renovated sanctuary and classroom building, the 19th of November.

The services will begin at 10 a.m., with worship at 11. The morning message will be delivered by Dr. A. A. Kitchings of Clinton, a former pastor. There will be "dinner on the ground," and in the afternoon a song service.

Wm. David Derrick is chairman of the Committee for Homecoming.

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## Organ Given In Memory Of David Jordan

Dedication services were held at Calvary Church, Silver Creek, October 15, for a new Hammond organ, given to the church in memory of Gene David Jordan, now deceased.

The organ was a gift from Gene David's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Jordan, his two brothers, Jamie and Maurice, and an aunt, Mrs. Iris Jordan Wellborn.

The dedication program included a prelude by Shirley Blair; song, "To God Be the Glory"; the invocation and Lord's Prayer; expressions of appreciation by Joe Sharp; the dedication read by the congregation; "The Love of God" sung by Jeff Myers; and dedicatory prayer by Rev. James D. McLemore.

The late David Jordan, who worked at Industries for the Blind in Jackson for four years, was a gifted musician. He was a Christian, and attended churches in Jackson while working there, and played the piano for a mission for several months.



## Briarwood, Meridian, Is Debt-Free

Briarwood Church, Meridian, on Sunday, November 5, celebrated the paying off of indebtedness on their two-year-old auditorium, with a noteburning ceremony. Guest speaker was Dr. Beverly Tinnin, pastor of First, Meridian. Joining in the service, above, were Jerry Barfield, left, chairman of deacons; Rev. Leon Young, right, Lauderdale superintendent of missions; and A. L. McCarty, center, eldest deacon. Organized on October 19, 1969, out of Ponta Hills Independent Church, Briarwood had 33 charter members. On October 17, this year, it was admitted to the Lauderdale Association with 97 members and church property value of \$50,000. Rev. Thomas J. Wood is pastor. Since its beginning, Briarwood has been on the Every Family Plan of the Baptist Record.

## Graham Association Files For A Radio Station In Hawaii

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association has filed with the Federal Communications Commission for a license to build a radio station in Hawaii having the capability of sending programs as far as Indonesia.

A spokesman for the Graham association in Minneapolis said the purpose of the non-commercial station would be to transmit the Gospel of Christ to the 20,000 islands of the South Pacific.

"No one is reaching the South Pacific with this type of program," George M. Wilson, the spokesman said.

He said the station would operate on long, medium and short-wave and provide 24-hour programming in up to 10 languages. Part of its range, Mr. Wilson said, would be the populous islands in the Indonesian Republic.

There are up to 75 similar stations already licensed around the world, Mr. Wilson said.

The Graham association's interests include Stations KAIM in Honolulu and WFGW in Black Mountain, N. C. The evangelist serves on the board of both stations.

Mr. Wilson said the application to build the new station does not indicate this type venture will be a new thrust by the evangelistic association.

## Bus Clinic To Be Held At First Church, Amory

Monroe County Association will sponsor a Church Bus Clinic at First Church, Amory on Friday, November 17. The clinic, led by Total Evangelistic Concepts, Inc. of Nashville, Tennessee, will cover every aspect of a church bus ministry.

Topics to be discussed are: Effective Organization, the Bus Director, the Bus Captain and Co-Captain, the Teenage Assistants, the Bus Driver, Recruiting and Training Bus workers, Graded Church Services, and many other topics.

Some of the featured speakers will be S. Ray Sadler, William A. Powell, Gardiner Gentry, J. J. Wolf, and Bruce French. Each is an authority in the bus ministry field.

All churches are invited. Registration is \$5.00 per church. Sessions on November 17 begin at 8:00 a.m. and conclude at 9:30 p.m. Nursery facilities will be provided.

## YMCA To Sponsor Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast For Men

YMCA's of Jackson are sponsoring their fifth annual Businessmen's Thanksgiving Breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., November 22, at the YMCA Building on High Street. All businessmen who wish to attend are invited.

Guest speaker at the Thanksgiving Breakfast will be Dr. David A. McIntosh, pastor of the Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson.

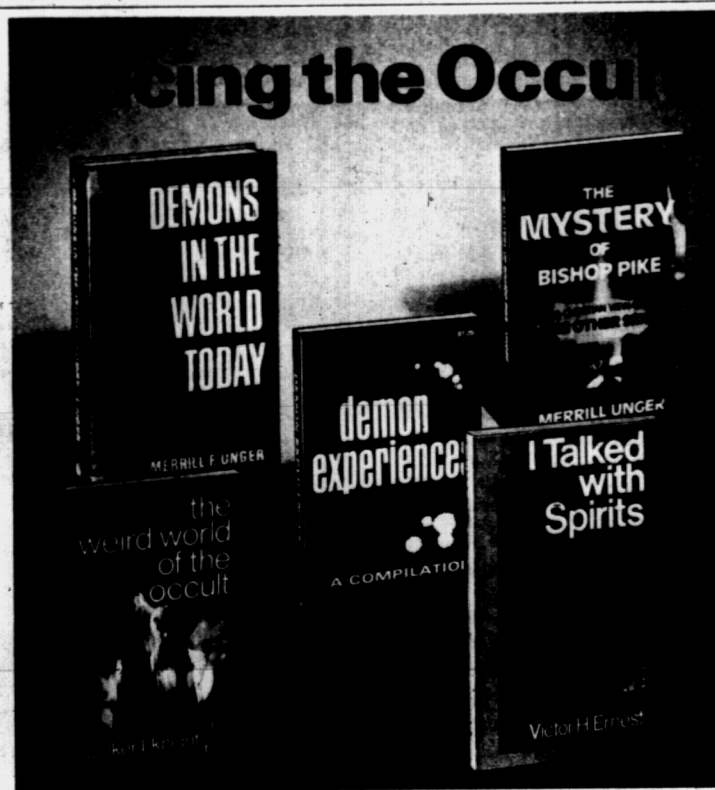
Dr. McIntosh, a graduate of Millsaps College, and Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., is a member of the Board of Trustees of Millsaps College.

Upon graduation from college, he received an offer to play football with the Los Angeles Rams. He and his daughter, Maura, both compose music and give performances together. She plays the guitar and accompanies herself and her father.

## Griffith Memorial, Jackson To Honor Pastor

November 26 marks the fourth anniversary of the pastor, Rev. Wilson Winstead, at Griffith Memorial, Jackson. This is also the sixty-fifth anniversary of the church.

All former members and friends are invited to attend the services. Following the morning service lunch will be served at the church.



## The Real Issues of Supernaturalism!

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# Concerning The Threat Of World Calamity

2 Kings 14:1-14; Psalm 33:13-17; Isaiah 31; Jeremiah 21; 27; 2 Peter 3:8-13

By Clifton J. Allen

War and peace is the burning issue that envelops the whole of mankind. It is urgent for Christians — and other persons as well — to be alert to and concerned about the very real possibility of conflict that could result in the destruction of a great part of the human race. But it is more urgent that Christians should understand and strive to live by the teaching of the Bible which provides guidance for courageous and faithful living in the midst of all the insecurities of a world order marked by distrust, hostility, and selfishness. The several Bible passages chosen for study emphasize that ultimate national security does not rest in the might of military armaments or military alliances, that fidelity to God in times of national crisis may involve suffering,



and that Christians are called to holiness and godliness, faith and hope in the midst of world crisis.

## The Lesson Explained GOD'S PERSPECTIVE (Ps. 33:13-17)

God has no favorites, is not partial toward any nation or race. Therefore, it is foolish for men to be exalted in pride or to try to defy the purposes of God or to ignore the authority and power of God. Of special relevance for this lesson is the truth in verses 16-17. A nation is not made secure by military might — the strength of the navy, the size of the army, the number of planes, not even planes of greatest speed, not even nuclear weapons that destroy a city and millions of people in a matter of seconds. Why will we not learn that war power is not the hope of ultimate victory? War ultimately defeats itself. Surely it is time to stop worshipping the war god and to bow down before the Lord of heaven and earth whose righteous judgment will surely prevail and whose love for all men makes them one in his sight.

## FALSE SECURITY (Isa. 31:1-3)

Judah was in between the world powers of Assyria and Egypt. Many pleaded for an alliance with Egypt, and seemingly Hezekiah the king favored such an alliance. The prophet Isaiah rebuked the rebellious nation for seeking security in the strength of Egypt instead of depending for security on the sovereignty of God. To turn to Egypt for help was to rely on horses and chariots and human strength. Actually, the clamor for an alliance with Egypt was distrust toward God, the Lord of Israel. Isaiah pointed out that if the people of Judah persisted in their dependence on Egypt, the judgment of God would surely bring their downfall.

Our nation can boast of tremendous military might, of stockpiles of weapons, of nuclear warheads, of intercontinental missiles, and of scientific genius to create greater weapons of destruction. But ultimately, they who take the sword will perish by the sword. We are called on to put our trust in God, not just in fear and not in any superficial way, but with the

conviction that God is the ruler over all the nations of men and that God's purpose is for the well-being and peace of mankind.

## HIGHEST LOYALTY (Jer. 21:8-10)

God had made known to Jeremiah his purpose that Babylon would be his instrument of judgment of his faithless people. Therefore, Jeremiah boldly declared God's word, admonishing the people to submit to the power of Nebuchadnezzar as the only hope for prevention against absolute destruction. Jeremiah was not in any sense a traitor. He was motivated by the highest loyalty of obedience to God and the greatest measure of love for the people of Judah. To stay in the city meant to die by the sword and by famine and by pestilence. But to surrender to the Chaldeans would at least mean life. God's face was set against the city of Jerusalem in judgment. The truth should be impressed on us that the better way of peace may involve surrender. An ever more important truth is that obedience to God and fidelity to conscience are the final criteria for the Christian in the face of war.

## Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

# Gratitude For God's Promise And Presence

Gen. 35:16-19; 37:32-35; 46:2-4; 48:3-4, 21

By Bill Duncan

The late F. Townley Lord was president of the Baptist World Alliance from 1950-1955. In an essay from his book *The Faith that Sings*, he reminisces about his parents who lived during the Victorian Era. They were active lay people in the Baptist work in Great Britain. His father he describes as a simple working man, who as a lay teacher and preacher spent long hours studying the Bible. This is how he described his mother, "She knew nothing of the discussion of the scholars about the Saviour as a historic figure, but everything of him as a daily Presence."

The Christian faith is not something to be debated or proven, but an experience of faith with a Person. Without the Person, all arguments are meaningless. With the Person, arguments are unnecessary.

Jacob was one who practiced the presence of God with him. His life was a real test. The loss of his wife was a real test. The loss of his beloved son was a real test. The loss of his income, economic stability that caused him to move to Egypt was a test. But in all his life there is a sense of gratitude for what God had done for him and his family.

How can a man keep his right sense of values during such great tests? No one really knows the loneliness and sorrow that can come until he loses the one he loves the most on this earth — his wife. Rachel died in childbirth. The baby's name was Benoni — "son of my sorrow" — but Jacob changed the name to Benjamin which means "son of the right hand." This was a trial that he had to endure and his faith was able to see him through it all. As a result the name of the child was changed.

One day the brothers brought to Jacob a coat that belonged to Joseph. It was torn and bloodstained. Naturally he jumped to the worst conclusion, and thought that the boy had been killed. This was a shock because he had foolish love for the boy more than the others. (Joseph must have been a great man, because his ability was shown in Egypt.) The boy was the reminder to his father of the beloved wife and mother — Rachel. But the favoritism had brought a division in the family. If Jacob had known the truth, he would have been more grieved. Death is easier to take than open hate. God was able to bring comfort to Jacob in spite of the bitter need.

God took care of Abraham's children as he said by showing them the

land of Egypt where food was available. The children of Jacob found themselves in need, and because God was able to direct their lives, he led them to Egypt with the promise that he would bring them back to the land of promise. Jacob found that Egypt was a blessing and expressed gratitude for God's help. Jacob was one who found a blessing in everything that God did for them. When poverty came and they were in need, then God supplied all their needs according to his mercy.

Jacob was one who came to trust God supplied all their needs according to his mercy. One who was self-sufficient came to find that God was able to mean more to his life than anything or anyone else. If one can have thankfulness in his heart for God, then he can realize the promises of God and the presence of God.

Most persons are not thankful. They do not know what it means to say thanks for anything. A converted Jewish friend told me the other day that he had returned thanks for the food in his sister's house the children giggled. Poor home training, you say! But how many times do we express thanks for everything? Where the presence of God is not practiced and the promises are not taught, how can you expect one to be blessed in everything?

Six weeks after his discharge from the hospital, a patient returned to thank his nurse. He explained his delay. "I thought so many people must come back to thank you that you must be bored by them."

"It's just the opposite," replied the nurse. "You are the first person in months who has come back to say thanks. I am delighted."

Gratitude to friends is something so seldom given. Yet gratitude is something of which we cannot give too much. Appreciation veritably expressed can oil the machinery of friendship and provide encouragement for the struggles of life. Sweet is the breath of vernal shower, The bee's collected treasures sweet, Sweet music's melting fall, but sweeter yet

The still small voice of gratitude. —Thomas Gray

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the hundreds of books in the trunk before the spare tire could be reached. Seeing a jeep coming over the hill, he hailed the driver and offered him a dollar to fix the flat. The big, strapping fellow was soon hard at work. When he expressed curiosity about the books Dr. Barnhouse told him he was a preacher. The man said, "My wife would be interested. She teaches Sunday school." Then he added, "But I'm not interested in those things."

All the time the man worked his dog stuck close, licking him every minute. Every now and again the man stopped to pat it. Dr. Barnhouse asked about the dog. The man told how once when corralling cattle, jumping from place to place to miss the quicksand, he slipped, and before he knew it he was in quicksand to the calves of his legs. "I had the presence of mind to throw my body back to spread my weight over a wide area so I wouldn't sink any more. But the position was agony. It was no use to call for there wasn't a person within a mile. Then I heard a noise in the bush, and there was a dog. The dog sensed something was wrong, came and licked my hands and face. I was able to draw myself

upright with my arms around the dog, and the dog pulling away, I got one leg, then the other out of the quicksand. Grabbing a dry hummock, I regained solid ground. That dog saved my life, and I'm devoted to it. He eats at my table. Though my wife doesn't like it, he sleeps at the foot of our bed."

Dr. Barnhouse replied, "How strange! A dog has saved your life from quicksand and you are devoted to it. Yet Christ has done more than the dog and you are not interested in Christ. You are in a worse plight than quicksand from which Christ came to save you! The dog did not die for you, but Christ did! Yet you thank the dog, but you're not thankful to Christ!"

Unless the time comes when we say, "Thank you, Lord, for dying to save my soul," ingratitude to the Friend of friends will lock heaven's door against us.

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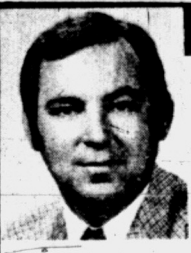
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Rev. and Mrs. Arlis Nichols

## Nichols Moves To Rolling Creek

Rolling Creek Church near Quitman, in Clarke County Association, announces that Rev. Arlis Nichols has accepted their call to serve as music and youth director.

He is married to the former Barbara Brown of Enterprise. The Nichols, pictured above, have two sons, Mike, 18, and Kevin almost eleven.

Mr. Nichols is a graduate of William Carey and has served as Pastor at Concord Church in Rankin County; First Church, Brandon; First Church, Purvis; and as music director and associate pastor of Calvary Church, Meridian.

## Off The Record

One apartment dweller who tired of finding cars in his assigned space took paint brush in hand and lettered: "Please — this space" reserved. There was no change.

He pondered awhile, then painted a sign: "Halt! Reserved for Karate Expert." The space has been empty ever since.

The clerk in the shoe store was trying to get the customer to buy a pair of shoes.

"Those shoes are too narrow, and pointed," said the customer.

"But people are wearing narrow, pointed shoes this season," said the clerk.

"That may be" said the customer, "but I'm still wearing last season's feet."

The ambition of most women is to be weighed and found wanting.

Hamlet, spotting Ghost: "Dad!"

## Rolling Fork Youth Takes "Fun Box" To Crippled Children

On October 26, representatives of the youth department of First Church, Rolling Fork carried a special trick-or-treat package to the Mississippi Crippled Children's Center in Jackson as their holiday project. Each member of the youth department contributed candy and a toy to fill the box which was decorated by Kay Manning, Sharon Collins, and Celeste Culppepper. The box was gaily decorated in Halloween colors with various designs for accent.

The group toured the center under the direction of Nancy Grantham, the registered nurse on duty. The youth group sang various songs to the children who heartily joined in with the fun of songs and laughter. After visiting and meeting the children and nurses, the group went to lunch in Jackson.

Accompanying the young people were Mrs. Charles Culppepper, music director, and Mr. and Mrs. Hal Luse, youth Sunday School leaders.



## A Caring Administrator

Mrs. Nan Sibley (right), assistant registrar at Mississippi College, has become a real friend of the student because of her caring attitude. Because of her position, she comes in contact with every student at the college one time or the other and she is always ready to assist them in any way possible. Here she counsels with Mary Ann Gibson of Kilmichael, a sophomore student in the School of Nursing. Mrs. Sibley and her husband met at and graduated from Mississippi College. Her four-year-old daughter, already following in their footsteps, is enrolled in the Mississippi College nursery and has already developed a love for "college school." (Photo by Bill Strange)

# Church Members Bring Visitors To Win Drawings And Paintings

VITORIA, Brazil — Kent Faris had finished language school and was ready to go to work as a field missionary, visiting and preaching to Baptist congregations throughout the state of Espirito Santo, Brazil. But, by his own estimate, he was far from fluent in Portuguese, and national language. So he began illustrating his sermons with simple chalk drawings.

How these pictures have brought nearly 1,000 visitors to Baptist churches during the past six months is a tale Faris enjoys telling.

As his language skills improved, so did his flair for illustrating the Good News, until now he finds it almost impossible to speak without drawing. It might be the appeal of the chalk, he says, or the elation he feels at hearing the "oohs" when the final black light flashes across the changed pictures — but the chalk drawing has become an integral part of his mission activity.

During a visit to a little church in Itapina, Faris unexpectedly found a way to make the pictures an even more effective part of his ministry.

As he prepared to leave, two youths asked for the drawing he had made during the service. Rather than choose between them, Faris casually announced that whoever brought the most visitors the next Sunday would receive the picture.

Several weeks later he received a request from the Itapina church for another picture. The first had resulted in more visitors than anyone expected. Several members had brought from 13 to 18. The winner, who had brought 47, refused his prize when he saw the disappointment of a girl who had brought 46. He offered her the picture if the church would ask the artist for another.

After that, Faris left his chalk drawings at the churches as premiums for the most visitors brought the following Sunday. Eventually, he started doing oil paintings in church and offering them as prizes.

In Itapina the visitors collected by one eight-year-old boy overran the small church; he brought 62.

One contest resulted in some hard feelings. The pastor's wife was determined to win, and although she brought 80 visitors she was second to a woman with even more determination. Maria, with the contest in mind, had prepared two banquets and plenty of sweets to lure her visitors; she brought in 143 and won the picture.

Out of this grew certain restrictions: no sweets or banquets to entice visitors!

"I continue to marvel," says Faris, "at the power of a simple idea delivered into the hands of God. In the first six months of our second term of work, the pictures have brought more than 800 visitors to 10 Baptist churches. With 129 other churches in our state of two million, this single idea may be worth 5,000 visitors."

## "Go Ye... Teaching"

The Ladies Adult Sunday School Class (Mrs. Ruth Flanagan, president) wanted to show their love and appreciation for their teacher, Mrs. C. H. (Vera) Ellard, "a dedicated teacher who has done much good in promoting the gospel throughout the world."

The class members gave an offering to state missions, in honor of Mrs. Ellard, in the amount of \$30. They wrote an article of apprecia-



## Jackson County: Leadership Training School

As a fitting climax to the special emphasis on reaching people for Bible Study in 1972, the Jackson County Association has just completed a successful Sunday School Leadership Training School. The faculty is pictured above, left to right, J. W. Brister, Gulf Coast Association; Elsie Rives, Baptist Sunday School Board; Mose Dangerfield, First Church, Biloxi; Mrs. G. E. Waites, Temple Church, Hattiesburg; Mrs. Betty Joe Dean, Ocean Springs; Joe Haynes, Baptist Sunday School Board. "No Superintendent ever had a greater faculty and the response of those attending was far beyond expectation. There were 280 enrolled with 22 churches represented," states Zeno Wells, supt. of missions, Bryant Cummings of the Mississippi Sunday School Department led in the association's enlargement campaign.



## Carey Class Visits Baptist Building

A class in religious education from Carey College recently visited Baptist points of interest in Jackson as a part of their "in-service" training, sponsored by the Cooperative Missions Department in which they study Baptist life and work. On the front row at left is seen Therman Bryant, associate in the department who directs the program. Next to him is Dr. Joel D. Ray, professor of religious education at the school. Also seen on front row is Mrs. Peggy Broome, who directed their tour of the Baptist Building.

tion for her and sent in to the local paper for publication; and they gave her a cake. Mrs. Ellard, above, is holding the cake which was baked by Mrs. Billie Baldwin and Mrs. Eula Mae Bryant, members of the Pittsboro Church. It is shaped like a Bible, and decorated with the Scripture, from Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye... teaching."

After graduation from Blue Mountain College, Mrs. Ellard attended New Orleans and Southwestern Seminaries. Her husband, a minister, now deceased, was at one time pastor of Pittsboro Church. Mrs. Ellard has worked many years in Church Training; at one time she was associational Training Union director. She has worked also in WMU, and for the state Sunday School Department.



Mrs. C. H. Ellard

# Today's Youth Baptist Wedding In Moscow

By Denton Lotz  
Vienna, Austria

The language may be different, the young woman's dress another style, the celebration customs varied, but in countries throughout the world the prayer is the same: "God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us" (Psalm 67:1).

This is the prayer of all young people who enter marriage as committed Christians. It was the prayer of a young couple whose marriage I witnessed recently in the Moscow Baptist Church.

At the end of an afternoon worship service (from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.), they took their vows and were united in matrimony. The service was simple and moving.

After the last hymn, the bride and groom came from a little room behind the pulpit and stood at the front of the church, facing the congregation. Michael Zhidkov, pastor of the church, greeted them and gave a short sermon on the significance of Christian marriage.

In the presence of hundreds he spoke to the couple as though they were alone, seeming to be almost whispering to them in secret. And that was rather fitting, indicating that marriage is a divine mystery that Christians find illuminated in Christ's love for all. After the pastor's words of admonishment, the choir broke forth with joy in a beautiful anthem.

Then the bride and groom knelt and prayed spontaneously, each with much fervor and clarity. After the prayers the pastor united them in marriage, using vows similar to those used in other Christian churches. After the exchange of rings (it was no secret now!) the entire congregation sang a hymn of thanksgiving and joy.

It is difficult to explain in words the feeling of joy that engulfed the whole congregation. Many persons had come with bouquets of flowers and the aisles were filled with people inching their way forward to get into the reception line. The pastors and elders of the church came down from the pulpit area and personally congratulated the couple. Then the parents and relatives came.

The line of well-wishers was

without end. The bouquets of flowers piled up.

It was a happy day for this young couple, and also for the congregation! The joy of Christian marriage was licensed by the fact that the groom was converted and baptized in the Moscow church only last year.

The Baptists of the Soviet Union use all occasions as opportunities for evangelism. Who knows? The next wedding in the Moscow church may be that of non-believing friends who attend the wedding of this young couple!

The prayer from Psalm 67 concludes: "Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee."



Members of Moscow Baptist Church are married in the church in a ceremony conducted by Pastor Michael Zhidkov. The wedding followed a two-hour worship service.



## "Share Seminar"

Benny Clark, director of religious activities for Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, checks with Nett Richardson, Clarke College BSU president, on details for the college's recent "Share Seminar." Mr. Clark was the featured speaker and resource person. The seminar was built on twin themes: "Do you really care?" "Do you know how to share?" J. B. Costlow is Clarke's BSU director.



Students in the picture represent all five associations in the area that supports the East Central BSU. They are left to right: Barbara Young, Winston; Amy Peoples, Leake; Alton Leach, Newton; Marshall Winstead, Neshoba; and Verner Gatewood, Scott.

## Bus Is Anniversary Gift To BSU At ECJC

The Baptist Student Union at East Central College was presented the keys to a 1973 fifteen-passenger bus, recently. The dedication of the bus was held in connection with a special 50th Anniversary Celebration of BSU in the SBC, which the East Central BSU had at Clarke-Venable Church in Decatur.

The bus is a 50th Anniversary gift from the churches and individuals in the East Central Junior College area.

The BSU will use the bus to take students to conventions, conferences, and retreats. It will also take students who are on the "BSU Outreach Team" to churches in the area and beyond to conduct Sunday services, week-end revivals, and other ministries in churches.

It will also be used for taking students to participate in off-campus mission projects and special services.

The first "real" trip the BSU made in the bus was to the Baptist Student Convention in Gulfport.

In accepting the keys to the bus from L. E. Cliburn, chairman of the Transportation Committee, Miss Gladys Bryant, BSU director, said, "Our desire is to use this bus to help students have opportunities to go places to serve, as well as to receive blessings at meetings they attend."

Dr. R. J. Reynolds, of Newton, Chairman of the Area Advisory BSU Committee challenged the students at the dedication service to use the bus to bring honor and glory to God as well as to have a good time.

## POWERLINE LIFELIGHT FOR TEENS

## Does Jesus Ever Let Go?

Dear POWERLINE:  
I was dating a guy about half a year ago. He was real nice and was super happy and friendly. My family and friends loved him. They said he was the only sensible guy that I've ever had over.

He told me he had done drugs for awhile but was off them and was doing Jesus now. I thought that was beautiful and it was true, too. I could tell he was truly high on Jesus. He helped me also get a closer walk with Jesus. Well, last time he called he told me that he had quit Jesus and was no longer a Christian. He was on speed and some other stuff. This time he was doing more than he had been before he became for Jesus. That's what I don't get. It says that when Jesus has hold of you — he never lets go. I don't understand what happened to Bruce.

POWERLINE Answers:  
The Bible tells the truth. When a person commits his life to Jesus, God never lets go. But sometimes the person lets go of Jesus. Even Peter, who lived and worked with Jesus for three years, denied that he ever knew him when the chips were down. But remember that when Peter came to his senses, he was even stronger than ever and served God until his death.

Perhaps Bruce will have a similar experience. You see, he is young and his understanding of commitment to Christ may be shallow at this point. But God still loves him and will not forsake him. It may take time for Bruce to grow up and to realize that giving himself to God is not just a trip — not something temporary to get high on. But giving his life to God is a lifelong process. There will be good times and bad, but in all things God still loves us and we can still depend upon him.

POWERLINE is a 30-minute radio program produced by Southern Baptist Radio-TV Commission, and broadcast as a public service weekly by 700 stations.